

# WIS 30/Thompson Road

August 2004

## Work begins August 2

### Project overview

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT), along with the city of Madison and the Dane County Highway Department, is improving the area of WIS 30, Thompson Road and Commercial Avenue (Dane County T) from August 2 to mid-October 2004.

The improvements will provide an interchange system that will safely and efficiently handle increasing traffic volumes. Roundabouts will be used to help alleviate congestion and guide motorists to their destination easily.

### Examining the roundabout

Much has changed in roundabout design in the last 25 years. Today, proper design based on sound traffic and transportation engineering principles, and tried and tested design methods, allow drivers to use a roundabout with the same driving and decision-making skills they encounter everyday at existing signalized intersections.

While roundabouts "calm" traffic by lowering speeds, their primary purpose is to process traffic through an intersection smoothly, safely and efficiently, often with less delay than signals.

Roundabouts have also been proven to reduce crashes. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety studied 24 U.S. intersections before and after they were converted to a modern roundabout. Results showed a 90 percent reduction in fatal crashes, a 75 percent reduction in injury crashes, and a 40 percent reduction in property damage only crashes.

A modern roundabout is designed for the intersection of the WIS 30 ramps with Thompson Road, and the Thompson Road/Commercial Avenue (County T) intersection.

### Traffic impacts

Thompson Drive will be closed to traffic between Swanton Road and Commercial Avenue from August 2 to October 15. The eastbound WIS 30 exit ramp to Thompson Road will also be closed during that time.

The southbound leg of the existing four-way stop at Thompson Road and Commercial Avenue (County T) will also be closed from August 2 to October 15. The other three legs of the intersection will be closed for about three weeks during phase 2 of construction, around late September and early October.

Motorists should also anticipate temporary lane closures at the Thompson /Commercial intersection and along County T east.

A detour route using Stoughton Road, Milwaukee Street and North Sprecher Road will be signed.

### Project schedule:

August 2 – project begins  
October 15 – project ends

### Modern roundabout:



### For more information, contact:

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### Mission statement:

*To provide leadership in the development and operation of a safe and efficient transportation system.*

